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Adv Fri Nov. 17

Kennedy Assassination take 2 190

He also doubts, as have many other critics of the commission, that commission exhibit 399, an almost undamaged bullet fired from Oswald's rifle, could have wounded both Kennedy and Connally, as the commission has alleged. Thompson claims bullet 399 probably penetrated only a short way into the President's back, fell out later at Parkland Hospital during the President's emergency treatment, and was found by a souvenir hunter who placed it in a nearby stretcher when he realized its significance.

The commission concluded bullet 399 had wounded both Kennedy and the Texas governor and subsequently fell from Connally onto his stretcher. This is the so-called ''single bullet theory'' which is central to the Warren Report.

In attacking this and the theory of a single assassin, Thompson refers to discrepancies of eye and ear witnesses to the crime as well as medical testimony which have been variously interpreted by the Warren Commission as well as its critics.

In reconstructing the assassination, Thompson says his ''scenario is an amalagam of hard fact and educated speculation.''

He draws his theory of three assassins from interpretation of the facts of timing of the frames of the Zapruder film, but he does not speculate on who the gunmen are.

End Adv Fri Ams Nov 17. Moved Nov 14

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